

**LIST OF CLAIMS / AMENDMENTS**

Claims 10-17 and 22 were canceled previously.

Please amend claims 1, 18, and 21 as shown herein.

Claims 1-9, 18-21, and 23-24 are pending and are listed following:

**1. (Currently Amended)** A method comprising:

evaluating a current state of each device of a plurality of devices where each device is evaluated independently of the plurality of devices;

assigning devices of the plurality of devices to a group, the assigned devices each having a substantially common state as other devices in the group;

assigning at least one event-handling policy to the group, wherein the assigned policy is associated with each of the devices in the group; and

revaluating a current state of each device in the group to ascertain validity of membership in the group before the assigned policy is applied to the devices in the group.

**2. (Original)** A method as recited in claim 1 wherein evaluating a current state of each device determines whether each device is currently a member of the group.

1           **3. (Original)** A method as recited in claim 1 wherein evaluating a  
2 current state of each device includes:

3                 determining whether a particular device is currently a member of the group;  
4 and

5                 applying the assigned policy to the particular device if the particular device  
6 is currently a member of the group.

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8           **4. (Original)** A method as recited in claim 1 wherein each device is  
9 assigned at least one additional policy that is not assigned to the group.

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11           **5. (Original)** A method as recited in claim 1 wherein a particular  
12 device is assigned to multiple groups.

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14           **6. (Original)** A method as recited in claim 1 wherein the event  
15 handling policy defines how the device is configured.

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17           **7. (Original)** A method as recited in claim 1 wherein the event  
18 handling policy identifies the types of events that are provided to each device.

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20           **8. (Original)** A method as recited in claim 1 wherein the method is  
21 implemented by a management module.

1           **9. (Original)** One or more computer-readable memories containing  
2 a computer program that is executable by a processor to perform the method  
3 recited in claim 1.

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5           **10-17. (Canceled)**

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7           **18. (Currently Amended)** One or more computer-readable media  
8 having stored thereon a computer program that, when executed by one or more  
9 processors, performs the process of:

10           evaluating a current state of each device of a plurality of devices where  
11 each device is evaluated independently of the plurality of devices;

12           assigning devices of the plurality of devices to a group, the assigned  
13 devices each having a substantially common state as other devices in the group;

14           identifying an event-handling policy associated with the group of devices,  
15 wherein the event-handling policy defines how devices are configured;

16           assigning the event-handling policy to the group of devices; and

17           revaluating a current state of each device in the group to ascertain validity  
18 of membership in the group before the assigned event-handling policy is applied to  
19 the devices in the group.

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21           **19. (Original)** One or more computer-readable media as recited in  
22 claim 18 wherein a particular device is assigned to multiple groups of devices.  
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1           **20. (Previously Presented)** One or more computer-readable media as  
2 recited in claim 18 wherein the event-handling policy further defines the type of  
3 event data that is provided to each device.

4           **21. (Currently Amended)** A computer-implemented method  
5 comprising:  
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7           determining current states of systems in an enterprise;  
8           assigning the systems to groups based on rules associated with the groups  
9 and the current states of the systems;

10           assigning policies to at least one particular group;  
11           reevaluating current states of each system in the particular group;  
12           if the reevaluated current states are valid according to the rules associated  
13 with the particular group, applying the policies to the systems in the particular  
14 group; and

15           if a current state of a particular system in the particular group is not valid,  
16 updating the particular group to delete the particular system[[:]] and applying the  
17 policies to the systems in the updated group.

18           **22. (Canceled)**  
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1           **23. (Previously Presented)** The computer-implemented method as  
2 recited in Claim 21, further comprising:

3           creating an event log associated with the particular group; and

4           maintaining information about the states of the systems in the particular  
5 group in the event log.

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7           **24. (Previously Presented)** The computer-implemented method as  
8 recited in Claim 21, wherein the current states represent at least one of a version of  
9 an operating system, a location in a geographic region, a configuration of the  
10 system, presence of a particular hardware item, or capacity of a particular  
11 hardware item.